



# Sutton Poyntz Society

Newsletter No 175 – May 2018

More information at [suttonpoyntz.org.uk](http://suttonpoyntz.org.uk)

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## **No apologies for leading with the Village Street Fayre again**

As a local Weymouth lad David Langridge, Chairman of the Village Fayre, visited the Fayre many times, but this year he is overseeing the event - and is looking forward to it even more. He says that all the committee really appreciate how the village gets involved in the Fayre with the ultimate aim of having fun and raising money for charity at the same time. They look forward to seeing as many people as possible on the day itself - which is, of course, **Sunday 24 June**, and don't believe anyone who tells you any other date.

### **Plant Stall**

Now is the time of year when keen gardeners (and pressed men like me) get out into the open air to tend to their estates. But please remember the Plant Stall needs potted on seedlings, so do some extra for them, and if when clearing out the shed you discover any old gardening tools which could be refurbished, get them to Caroline Crisp 832529 or Erica Ferrari 561908. They could also recycle any gardening related items suitable as gifts.

### **Home-made Cakes**

Ginny, Wendy and Anthea would be most grateful for lots of home-made cakes, of all descriptions, for the Mission Hall and Waterworks Tea Rooms. These should be delivered to the Mission Hall on Saturday between 2 and 4 pm or early on the Sunday morning.

### **Other Village Stalls**

The Perfect Presents stall could use any unwanted Christmas presents you might still have, while other stalls would like paperback books, antiques, accessories, designer clothes, jewellery, games and children's toys, vintage linens, Kitchenalia, craft and art work, small wooden items (e.g. tables, candlesticks), tote bags and cushions. Donations for any village stall can be dropped off at the Mission Hall on Monday and Tuesday mornings between 10 and 11. They will then be passed on to the relevant stall holders. Otherwise contact Pat Bellis (837162) or Hilary Davidson (834479).

## Fayre Helpers Needed

Jeز Cunningham ( [jez@cunningham.net](mailto:jez@cunningham.net)) has made a plea for as many helpers on the day as possible, for manning entrances, village stalls, parking and catering. If you are available all day than that's wonderful, but if not then perhaps you could assist 9.30 to 12, 12 to 2.30 or 2.30 to 4.30? Assistance is also needed setting up on the day and clearing things away later and on the Monday. Please contact Jez if you can help in any way.

### Pond clean-up



By the time your Editor arrived over 25 villagers, including helpers from outlying areas. were hard at work in, over and around the pond. Captain Keith Potter was smuggling piles of rushes in his dinghy from one side to the other under the motive power of Coxswain Dave Morris, fetchingly attired in waders, while many other helpers with rakes, shears,

secateurs and wheelbarrows, attacked the undergrowth in the upper reaches. Careful removal of overgrown reeds ensured that the ducks and moorhens were not disturbed,



and soon a large and growing pile of debris



appeared on Bill Egerton's compost (?) heap. Enormous progress was made in good time and right on cue Jo stepped out of

the pub with a tray of delicious bacon rolls and steaming cups of beverage. Hooray for the Springhead! Refreshed workers returned to their labours and completed the task in short order. Now we can look forward to the arrival of lots of fluffy ducklings in their pristine environment. Well done to everyone who helped.



## **Chatty Crafty Group**

The Chatty Crafty Group meets in the Mission Hall every Monday morning between 10am and noon, to knit, crochet, etch, colour, embroider and much more. You can see from the photos (thanks for those Yvonne) how much everyone is enjoying themselves. They even have a spin off group which is learning to play the ukulele. They still have room for, and welcome, new members and new talents. So if



you have a skill you could share, or would like to see what is on offer, do drop in. It costs just £2 and that includes refreshments, and even this benefits others, because the Group recently donated £100 to the local St Andrews Angels charity from the proceeds of the refreshments. It is nice to see a new Village initiative thriving, so remember, it's every



Monday morning at 10am. Drop in and see them.

## **Homewatch**

The new Chief Constable, James Vaughan, has over 6 years experience in Dorset and is very supportive of community policing. Our local PCSO, Clive Joyner, has retired and will be sorely missed. His post has yet to be filled. Eight new local Police Community Support Investigators (PCSI) will react to, investigate and report on the lesser categories of reported crime. This is designed to provide a level of security for the general public and to support victims. Full details of this initiative have been circulated. A meeting of village coordinators will discuss an Association of Dorset Watches survey - to make Homewatch more inclusive, effective and better supported locally - and the revised Data Protection Laws. You may be asked to confirm, electronically or in writing, that you are happy to have your details stored for the purposes of disseminating Homewatch information. Peter Jones will decide the way ahead in mid May.

## Village bench



The village bench at Cartshed Corner has been completely refurbished by Jez Cunningham and Bill Davidson. After removing and conveying the old rotten wood to the tip and painting the metal frame, new wood was needed. Bill Egerton had purchased some a while ago, but more was required. When

told the wood would be used on a village charitable project, Dorchester Timber cut it to size at a very generous discount. After drilling, bolting and reinstallation the seat is as good as new, as you can clearly see - they even managed to get Presidents Trump and Macron to sit on it for the photo. But seriously we are very grateful to Jez and Bill for all their hard work.

## SP Society AGM - a view from the audience

44 attended, but the Mission Hall can seat many more and it was considerably less well attended than last year. The evening began with an interesting talk by Doug Pigg and Sandra Brown (Trustees of the Interest Communities Group) on proposals for a Dorset and East Devon National Park. Watch that space! After welcome refreshments the meeting moved on to the AGM proper. Mike Blee stood down as Chairman and, in the absence of a volunteer replacement, Peter Dye took over as Acting Chairman. With Sue Wintle, Peter Dye and Liz Balfe also standing down, and no volunteers forthcoming, the committee is at its bare minimum of seven. Thanks were proposed to all retiring committee members for their service. There was discussion of the possibility of SP Ltd becoming a Community Interest Company so that it could purchase the phone box for the village. The cost of £1 has already been donated by an anonymous benefactor (in fact at least two people have stumped up the money!). A Code of Conduct will be put in place for committee members, which should cut out the unseemly fisticuffs and bloodshed seen in the past. The Society celebrates 50 years this year, so perhaps the event should be marked with a suitable social? It was also agreed that an extra-ordinary AGM would be held to discuss the Society's Planning Policy. The meeting closed followed by further refreshments and much conversation.

## **The long reach of the Newsletter**

It's a little disappointing not to have seen Maureen and Tim Tepper, latterly of 2 Myrtle Cottages, at the Winter/Summer Coffee mornings recently. Their rather weak excuse for not turning up is that it's a long way for them to come from their new home in Western Australia! They do however read the Newsletters with great interest and say that it is wonderful to learn what is happening in the village, with news of old friends and neighbours, plus the new folk as well. They do still miss the village, if not the climate, and ask that we don't stop the Newsletter coming now that we know their little secret. It raises a smile and helps to fill a heart that is still a tiny bit homesick.

## **Village events**

### **History Evening**

At the Sutton Poyntz History Evening in the Mission Hall John Willows gave a talk on "The Sutton Poyntz Waterworks". It is no exaggeration to say that there is no-one who knows more about the Waterworks, or is more practiced in recounting its history, than John. Conflicting with a meeting of the ubiquitous Neighbourhood Forum, attendance was down a little, but those there enjoyed an informative, interesting and humorous walk through the history of the water source known as the Spring Head. John took us from its earliest days - when the stream course was diverted in Roman times - through to its present highly mechanised use as the water supply for the whole of Weymouth (or perhaps, more precisely, Melcombe Regis and Weymouth), with mention of some of the characters who have shaped its history. Everyone learned a great deal, and showed their appreciation with a sustained applause at the conclusion. There can be no doubt that John is a "fount" of knowledge, and it is to be hoped that he finds a permanent home for his archive. A collection was taken for the charity 'Water Aid'.

### **Scout Jumble Sale**

In the safe hands of Mo and Dave Martin the Weymouth East Scout & Guide Spring Jumble Sale raised over £560. They would like to thank everyone who helped before and on the day, who contributed so many items for sale, who turned up to purchase those goods, and of course, the Echo Newsdesk for mentioning the Sale in the paper. The money will be used, as always, to keep the Scutt Hall in good repair for the use of our local boys and girls. Huge thanks are due to Mo and Dave for continuing with the Jumble Sale.

## **SPAM**

As most of you know, SPAM stands for Sutton Poyntz Action Men (though in my case it should perhaps be SPLAM, or SP Lack of Action Man) and the group are very active under the able stewardship of Clive Davies. Just to let them know they are not forgotten, a section devoted to their activities will appear in a future Newsletter.

## **Forthcoming events**

### **Summer Coffee Mornings**

The Winter Coffee Mornings have morphed seamlessly into the Summer Coffee Mornings, but still offer the same blend of good conversation, fine tea/coffee and excellent homemade cakes (including Jean's famous cheese scones). Your Editor had been told the cost was £3, but on arrival he was given a discount of 50p, the reason for which he modestly ascribed to his good looks, wit and charm. Later it transpired that the cost was only £2.50 for everyone, which makes it even more of a bargain. Remember to put the dates in your diary - first Friday in the month, from 10.30am to noon, in the Mission Hall, through to September.

## **Other News**

**Buses** First Bus announced in January the closure of the Bus Service 5 to Dorchester via Preston & Crossways. However it is still operating under Damory.

**Traffic Survey** If you would like to see the results of the traffic survey carried out in the village, go to the village website and find it under 'Neighbourhood Planning', 'Documents', 'Traffic Survey, September 2017'. The 'Summary' is the place to start; it makes interesting reading.

## **Business matters**

**Minutes** of the Society monthly committee meetings are on the web site.

**Newsbites** are email news updates. Contact [newsletter@suttonpoyntz.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@suttonpoyntz.org.uk) to receive these. Jez also displays them on the Cartshed notice board.

**Organising an event?** Send the editor a reminder about a week before it takes place so that a Newsbite can be circulated.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - see progress at [suttonpoyntz.org.uk/neighbourhood](http://suttonpoyntz.org.uk/neighbourhood)

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Chairman TBA**

**Secretary Bill Egerton 832872**

**Treasurer Terry Pegrum 834303**

**Peter Riley 834653**

**Jez Cunningham 835811**

**Hilary Davidson 834479**

**Jackie Greet 833557**

**Jill Kelsey 835605**

**Please contact the editor with news and views, but make sure your input is with him at latest by 31 July, ready for the next issue.**